



# SPECIAL ALERT

STATE OF  
CALIFORNIA



## Update from the California Student Aid Commission

December 3, 2014

GSA 2014-39

TO: Financial Aid Administrators  
High School Counselors

FROM: Catalina G. Mistler   
Chief, Program Administration & Services Division

SUBJECT: **Assembly Bill (AB) 2000 and Dream Act Application**

This Special Alert from the California Student Aid Commission (Commission) reports the passage of Assembly Bill (AB) 2000 and its impact on financial aid eligibility beginning January 1, 2015.

- AB 131 allows undocumented students who meet AB 540 eligibility requirements to apply for financial aid via the California Dream Act Application.
- AB 2000 amends the school attendance requirement of AB 540 and designates that if a student has not attended a California High School for at least three years, that portion of the eligibility criteria may be replaced by the following:
  - Attainment of three years' worth of high school credits from a California High School (equivalent to 3 or more years of full-time high school coursework), and
  - A total of 3 or more years of attendance in California elementary or secondary schools, or a combination of those schools (the years do not have to be sequential).
- The California Dream Act Application is for:
  - Undocumented students who meet AB 540/AB 2000 criteria,
  - U visa holders, and
  - AB 540 eligible students who hold a Social Security Card obtained through Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA); DACA holders are not eligible noncitizens.

AB 540 undocumented students should fill out only one application, the California Dream Act Application and not the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

### Need to contact us?

- Institutional Support phone number: (888) 294-0153
- E-mail: [schoolsupport@csac.ca.gov](mailto:schoolsupport@csac.ca.gov)

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